



Dear Friends,

The heinous acts leading to George Floyd's death leaves us all saddened and outraged. While the press has focused on the negative aspects surrounding many protests, those images should not obscure the important message of the peaceful protesters. We must recognize the catalysts behind this weekend's activities. Racial bias still exists, the public education system fails many in need, and many African Americans continue to feel oppressed and longing for opportunity.

The Boys & Girls Club mission places our team at the center of an opportunity to effect change for young people who experience the catalysts outlined above. When the negative headlines of the riots and looting disappear, the underlying issues will remain. Our team will work to help our members process what is happening in the world around them and continue to provide a safe place for all young people. We will re-double our efforts to support our members in education, life skills and workforce development.

No simple solution exists for eradicating racism and the opportunity gap. However, collective efforts from organizations like Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware can generate powerful changes to these inequities. We will continue to provide hope and opportunity to those who need us the most.

I am thankful for the skills and empathy our team brings to their roles in youth development and know that together, we will change thousands of lives for the better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Wellons".

John Wellons  
President & CEO  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Hare".

Mike Hare  
Board Chair  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware